

HF Happenings

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South African Radio League 1925 - 2010 Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
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30 March, SARL 80 m Club Contest, digital

2 April, SARL RaDAR Contest

2 April - SA AMSAT Space Symposium at Vodaworld, book at www.amsatsa.org.za.

7 April, SARL 80 metre QSO Party

Find the rules in the 2011 SARL Contest Manual

Three SA Bureau of Standards Sub-Committees to Deal with Aspects of Communication Technology

The SABS technical committee 74 (TC74) has established three sub-committees which have been tasked with the development and approval of communication equipment standards. Of main interest for Amateur Radio is committee TC74D that is tasked with standards for communication systems utilising the electromagnetic spectrum. TC 74 will remain the oversight committee.

On the PLC front, ESKOM is considering the use of power line communication in the frequency range up to 500 kHz for remote network management and metering. Members of the TC62, TC73, TC74 and TC80 will soon meet to discuss the process to be used to establish a standard. The issue of Broadband PLT is currently being handled by a joint workgroup of TC73 and TC80. The SARL representative, Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV, chairs this workgroup, designated WG6. It is not likely that the Broadband PLT work will move to the group considering the low frequency PLC.

The term PLC and PLT are confusing. ICASA uses PLT for the broadband application while the power utilities refer to it as PLC. The principle of operation is the same just the frequency of operation differs.

Low frequency PLC does not pose a material threat to amateur radio while the high frequency version could potentially create havoc on the HF bands. Final regulations are still awaiting review by the ICASA Council. Although the draft regulations do not include the notching of

What have you done today for Amateur Radio to make you proud?





March 2011

21 - Human Right's Day; Spring Equinox

22 - World Water Day

23 - World Meteorological Day

25 – Inland schools close

25 - SAiSAT briefing session at the NARC

26/27 - CQ WW WPX SSB Contest test

30 - SARL 80 m Club Contest, digital

April 2011

1 – Coastal schools close

2 – RaDAR Contest

2 - SA AMSAT Space Symposium at Vodaworld

7 - SARL 80 m QSO Party

11 – All schools open

15 to 17 - SARL National Convention, Sasolburg

16 - SARL AGM, Sasolburg

16 - Autumn QRP Sprint

16 - Holyland DX Contest; EU Spring SSB Sprint

16 and 17 - YU DX Contest

18 - World Amateur Radio Day
22 – Easter Friday

22/23 - Two Oceans Marathon
23/24 - SP DX RTTY Contest

23/24 April - Helvetia Contest
25 – Family Day

26 – School holiday

27 – Freedom Day

30 April - Marconi Day

30 April/1 May - 10-10 International Spring CW Contest

Amateur frequencies there are acceptable mitigation rules in place should radio amateurs experience interference from PLT.

21 years Namibia, 21 years NARL

The activation of the special event call sign V521NAM was a huge success. We received numerous mails requesting an extension of time for the call sign. The Namibian Communications Commission granted this extension. The call can now be worked until 27 March 2011. All QSL details are on QRZ.com.

NARL website <http://www.qsl.net/narl> see also Namibian Amateur Radio League's 21st birthday at www.southgatearc.org/news/march2011/namibia.htm

Contest Results

Eighteen logs were received for the SARL Digital Contest held on the 27th February 2011. The results are as follows:

1st Pierre van Deventer, ZS6A, 494 points

2nd Daniel Hubbard, ZS6JR, 450 points

3rd Geoff Levey, ZS6GRL, 443 points

4rd West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 335 points

5th Dirk Els, ZS6AKU, 312 points

6th Johan van Aarde, ZS2I, 264 points

7th Rohan Schreuder, ZS6RJS, 210 points

8th Allan Saul, ZS1LS, 207 points

9th Pieter Roos, ZS6PGR, 189 points

10th Hal Lund, ZS6WB, 156 points

11th Charles le Roux, ZS1CF, 144 points

12th Jacques Le Roux, ZS1JY, 135 points

13th Peter Roos, ZS6PRS, 117 points

14th Russell Mycroft, ZS1VK, 111 points

15th Peter Smith, ZS6PJ, 78 points

16th Nico Vorster, ZS6NVJ, 60 points

17th David Cloete, ZR6AOC, 48 points

18th Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE, 42 points

The winner of the Lucky Draw prize is Peter Roos, ZS6PGR.

SARL Hamnet Simulated Emergency Contest 6 March 2011. Nineteen logs and one check log were received.

Singe Operator Stationary Mobile:

1st Nico Oelofse, ZS4N, 1 896 points

2nd Brendon Muller, ZR4DEF, 1 030 points

3rd Kieh Liddle, ZS6AGF, 630 points





4th Dennis Green, ZS4BS, 228 points

Single operator Base Station:

- 1st Mike Lauterbach, ZS5ML, 1 320 points
- 2nd Wessie Wessels, ZS2A, 1 260 points
- 3rd Mitchell Mynhardt, ZS6YH ,1 200 points
- 4th Andy Cairns, ZS6ADY, 1 100 points
- 5th Charly du Pont, ZS5DU, 1 072 points
- 6th Romeo Nardini, ZS6ARQ ,1 005 points
- 7th Derek Stuart, ZS2J, 882 points
- 8th Judy Pretorius, ZS6JDY, 780 points
- 9th Nico Vorster, ZS6NJV, 465 points
- 10th Shane Daniels, ZS4TW, 370 points
- 11th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 350 points
- 12th Marius Snyman, ZR6MS, 330 points
- 13th Dawie Conradie, ZR6DHC, 144 points

Single Operator Portable

- 1st Al Akers, ZS2U, 738 points
- 2nd Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE, 396 points

There were no multi-operator portable entries. The contest committee did not indicate who submitted a check log. The winner of the lucky draw is Wessie Wessels, ZS2A.

SARL March Madness YL Sprint. Nine logs and one check log was received for the SARL March Madness YL Sprint held on Saturday 12 March 2011. Four of the logs came from YLs and the rest from non-YLs.

- 1st Pam Momberg, ZS6PAM, 87 points
- 2nd Melinda Mynhardt, ZU6MM, 61 points
- 3rd Dawn Snyders, ZS5ME, 58 points
- 4th Colette Rundle, ZS2CR, 39 points
- 5th Wessie Wessels, ZS2A, 35 points
- 6th Gideon Jannasch, ZS6GJA, 27 points
- 7th Bloemfontein RAC, ZS4BFN, 26 points
- 8th Shane Daniel, ZS4TW, 24 points
- 9th Nigel Burgess, ZR6NGB, 19 points
- 10th Denis Wheeler, ZR6DNS, 12 points

Check log, Derek Stuart, ZS2J, 14 points

Congratulations to all the winners

Pirate

Do not waste your time on working HS0ZDZ. "The last entry in his log that I have is 31 July 2004," his QSL manager, GM4FDM, says. Three months later the genuine Ray Gerrard, HS0ZDZ / G3NOM, suffered a serious stroke and is no longer active. GM4FDM is "slowly putting Ray's logs onto LoTW. HS0ZDZ and HS0/G3NOM are already there."





7 MHz balloon trans-Atlantic attempt

The balloon Speedball-1 should be attempting a crossing of the Atlantic on Friday UTC (Thursday evening ET) and it will be carrying a 7,102 MHz USB Amateur Radio beacon. The launch will hopefully take place on Friday 25 March at 01:00 UTC (Thursday 24 March at 9 PM Eastern Time) from Space Port Indiana, in Columbus IN. If weather conditions are not favourable, further launch attempts will be made on Saturday and Sunday UTC.

It is expected to take between 36 and 72 hours to complete the crossing with a landing in either Southern Europe or North Africa.

The 40 m beacon is capable of transmitting both RTTY and DominoEX and the free software dl-fldigi can be used to decode it. However, the Twitter feed indicates that a few days ago they were having RFI problems with the flight computer, which was resetting whenever the HF transmitter was on, hopefully these have been resolved, see <http://twitter.com/LVL1WhiteStar/>

You can sign up for a launch notification announcement on the right-hand side of the home page at <http://whitestarballoon.org/>.

Follow the flight live at <http://track.whitestarballoon.com/>. Details of the HF Payload <http://wiki.whitestarballoon.com/doku.php?id=hardware:radio:hf:wb8elkwhitestarn17>

African DX

Southern Sudan 2011. Antonio, EA5RM, member of the Intrepid-DX/DX Friends Group planning a multi-national DXpedition to Southern Sudan, sent out the following press release this past week: "After a long way, a lot of hard work and several successful meetings with Southern Sudan Government officials of various Ministries, just today, the first amateur radio license has been issued by the new government.

Southern Sudan Government officials now understand amateur radio, and they are ready to change the actual rules and regulations as soon as possible, looking to simplify the process of obtaining a license, so that everyone can enjoy amateur radio in this new country.

We have the cooperation of both Ministries to update our license if there is a new prefix that will be assigned by ITU, and we'll be in permanent contact with the proper department helping in the development of amateur radio in Southern Sudan.

Our DXpedition will start on 9 July from Juba so please stay tuned. I want to thank the Government of Southern Sudan officials for their co-operation and my whole team support....." Antonio Gonzalez, EA5RM

Botswana, A2. The Secunda guys are busy again. Lucas, ZS6ACT, Adele, ZR6APT, Sid, ZS6AYC, Gert, ZS6GC, Steffi, ON3AEO, Filip, ON4AEO, Jose, ON4CJK, Kath, ON7BK and others will be active as A25FC from their QTH east of Seika, Botswana (WW Loc KG37xa), on 14 - 18 April 2011. Plans are to be active on 80 - 10 metre SSB, CW, PSK and RTTY. QSL via ON4CJK, direct or via the bureau. Visit the website at www.filipstattooshop.be/botswana/

Morocco, 5D. Operators Stefano, IK2QEI, Matteo, IK2SGC, and Rich, N6KT, will be active with the special call sign 5D5A from the CN3A contest station during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (26 and 27 March) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL via I2WIJ or LoTW.

African Islands on the Air





Canary Islands, EF8. Look for EF8M from Santa Maria de Guia, Las Palmas, Gran Canaria (AF-004, DIE S-005, WLOTA L 0969), to be on the air during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (28 and 29 May) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via UA3DX.

Seychelles, S7. Operators Norbert, F6AXX, Romain, F8DSI, and Bernard, F5HEW, will be active as S79UFT from Mahe, Seychelles Islands (AF-024) between 24 March and 15 April. Activity will be on 80 - 10 metres using CW and some PSK. Suggested CW frequencies are 3 524, 7 013, 10 115, 14 025, 18 083, 21 025, 24 903 and 28 025 kHz. PSK will be on the usual PSK frequencies. QSL via F6AXX, direct (QRZ.com) or by the French REF-Union Bureau.

Mayotte, FH. Jose, PT9ZE, Ric, PY2PT, Anderson, PY2TNT, Alex, PY2WAS and Fernando, PY4BZ will be active as TO2FH from Mayotte (AF-027) on 18 - 25 April. They plan to operate CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK on 160 - 10 metres with three stations. QSLing instructions can be found at qrz.com under TO2FH.

Special Event

France. Ile de la Passion was discovered 300 years ago on 3 April 1711. Today we know this island with its modern name Clipperton Island. To celebrate this some members of the Clipperton DX Club will activate the special event station TM300CDXC from 28 March until 11 April. QSL via F5IL.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 22 to 29 March 2011.

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB
20:00 - 21:30 UTC 24 March

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RS and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 31 March 2011

Upload log at:

<http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2011/r80mc_c.shtml

CQ WW WPX SSB Contest

00:00 UTC 26 March to 23:59 UTC 27 March

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band QRP, Low or High - Tribander or Rookie; Single Op Single Band QRP, Low or High - Tribander or Rookie; Single Op Assisted All Band Low or High - Tribander or Rookie; Multi-Single; Multi-Two; Multi-Multi

Max operating hours: Single Op: 36 hours with off times of at least 60 minutes; Multi-Op: 48 hours

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RS and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 6 points per 160, 80 and 40 m

QSO with different continent; 3 points per 20, 15 and 10 m QSO with different continent; 2 points per 160, 80 and 40 m QSO with same continent different country; 1 point per 20, 15 and 10 m QSO with same continent different country; 1 point per QSO with same country





Exception: QSO points double for NA-NA QSOs with different country

Multipliers: Prefixes once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 April 2011

E-mail logs to: ssb[at]cqwp[dot]com

Mail logs to: SSB WPX Contest, CQ Magazine, 25 Newbridge Rd, Suite 405, Hicksville NY 11801, USA

Find rules at:

[http://www.cqwp\[dot\]com/rules.htm](http://www.cqwp[dot]com/rules.htm)

QRP Homebrewer Sprint

00:00 - 04:00 UTC 28 March

Mode: CW, PSK31

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and power out

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with commercial equipment; 3 points per QSO with homebrew xmtr OR rcvr; 4 points per QSO with homebrew xmtr AND rcvr

Multipliers: Power: >5 W: x 1, 1 - 5 W: x 7, 250 mW - 1 W: x 10, <250 mW: x 15; States, provinces, countries once per band per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x power mult * total SPC mults

Submit logs by: 26 April 2011

E-mail logs to: w2lj[at]verizon[dot]net

Mail logs to: Larry Makoski, W2LJ, 327 Clinton Place, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.njgrp.org/data/grphomebrewersprint.html>

Next Week's Contests

SARL RaDAR Contest, 12:00 - 18:00 UTC 2 April

ARCI Spring QSO Party, 12:00 UTC 2 April to 23:59 UTC 3 April

EA RTTY Contest, 16:00 UTC 2 April to 16:00 UTC 3 April

QCWA Spring QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 2 April to 18:00 UTC 3 April

Missouri QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 2 April to 05:00 UTC 3 April and 18:00 - 23:59 UTC 3 April

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 4 April

ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 5 April

SARL 80 m QSO Party, 17:00 - 20:00 UTC 7 April

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 21 March 2011.

1820 - British settlers arrive in Cape Town on board the Nautilus and the Chapman. Settlers on the Nautilus arrive in Algoa Bay on 14 April

1843 - First traffic tunnel under the Thames opened

1860 - ML Byrn, New York, gets a patent for the corkscrew

1883 - First long distance telephone service between Chicago - New York

1885 - Edison patents wireless induction telegraphy between moving trains and railway stations

1895 - Lumiere Bros show the first movie show to a Paris audience

1898 - US Navy starts investigating Naval Aviation

1899 - First wireless telegraph message sent across the English Channel

1900 - Pres Kruger of the Transvaal Republic appoints Count Georges de Villebois-Mareuil as a Combat General of the Boer forces

1904 - First colour picture published in Daily Illustrated Mirror, New York.





Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

SARL 80 m Club Championship

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The SARL 80 Metre Club Championship is a series of short weekday evening contests on 80 m based around competition between affiliated radio clubs. Individual scores in every event count towards a radio club's overall score so it is important for the club to get members to come on the air during as many sessions and as many modes as possible.

The second contest for 2011 is the Digital (PSK31 and RTTY) contest that will be run from 17:30 UTC (19:30 CAT) to 18:30 UTC (20:30 CAT) on Wednesday 30 March 2011. The exchange is a RS(T) and a consecutive serial number starting at 001. Participation can be as a Single Operator or Multi-operator station.

The following segment must be utilised for the contest - Data modes 3580 - 3620 kHz
Note: The frequency segment 3580 to 3585 kHz is reserved for PSK31 operation - stations operating PSK should transmit only between these limits. Stations operating RTTY should not attempt to make QSOs in this 5 kHz segment.

Stations score one (1) point per contact. A participant may be contacted twice on data modes (once on RTTY, once on PSK). In the data modes contests, contact may be on RTTY or PSK only. The same station may be worked on both RTTY and PSK.

Each session is a contest in its own right, and log entries must be submitted to zs4bfm@netactive.co.za within seven (7) days of the contest. The closing time and date is 23:59:59 on Wednesday 6 April.

In order to count towards the total for an affiliated radio club, the radio club name must be clearly indicated on the entry, and one of the entries submitted must be the radio clubs call sign. Radio clubs may wish to appoint a co-ordinator who can ensure that entries contain all required information and are submitted on time.

At the end of the programme in November, the affiliated radio club whose members have made the highest aggregate score will be awarded the Affiliated Club trophy.

